

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LONDON 08735 261228Z
ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 CAB-02 CIAE-00 COME-00
DODE-00 DOTE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 EPG-02 FAA-00
PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 L-03 H-01 SSO-00 NSCE-00
INRE-00 VO-03 SCA-01 INSE-00 TRSE-00 /078 W
-----261250Z 053987 /45

O R 261214Z MAY 77
FM AMEMBASSY LONDON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4384
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA IMMEDIATE
INFO USMISSION GENEVA
AMCONSUL MONTREAL

C O N F I D E N T I A L LONDON 08735

PASS DOT (DAVENPORT, KAMM), CAB (WEST, RODRIGUES),
WHITE HOUSE (JOHNSTON)
GENEVA FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY KATZ

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: EAIR, UK, CA
SUBJECT: US-UK CIVAIR NEGOTIATIONS: PRECLEARANCE IN
CANADA

REF: A) OTTAWA 4153, B) MONTREAL 826, C) OTTAWA 4264

1. REFTELS ARE MOST HELPFUL. USDEL ASSUMES WASHINGTON
AGENCIES UNDERSTAND THAT U.S. OBJECTIVE SHOULD NOT BE TO
FIND WAYS TO FACILITATE PRECLEARANCE FOR U.K.-U.S.
TRAFFIC ROUTED VIA CANADA BY BRITISH AIRWAYS IN EVENT OF
SUSPENSION DIRECT U.S.-U.K. AIR SERVICES, BUT RATHER TO
MAKE THIS AS DIFFICULT AS POSSIBLE. WE ASSUME THIS HAS
BEEN MADE CLEAR TO CUSTOMS AND INS.

2. QUESTION HAS BEEN RAISED WHETHER, IF PRECLEARANCE
FACILITIES AND PERSONNEL ARE NOT SUFFICIENT TO PRECLEAR
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ALL U.K. TRAFFIC MOVING THROUGH CANADIAN POINTS TO U.S.,
TRANSBORDER AIRLINES COULD POST-CLEAR OVERFLOW TRAFFIC
AT U.S. POINTS. OUR UNDERSTANDING IS THAT AN AIRLINE
MUST PRECLEAR ALL PASSENGERS ABOARD FLIGHTS OR NONE, BUT
THAT IT CANNOT DO BOTH. PLEASE CLARIFY.

3. USDEL ALSO REQUESTS DEPARTMENT AND EMBASSY OTTAWA

VIEWS AND ASSESSMENT ON FOLLOWING POINTS:

- A. IF THERE IS AN OVERFLOW OF U.K. TRAFFIC WHICH CANNOT BE PRECLEASED ON A TIMELY BASIS, THIS WOULD PRESUMABLY AFFECT NORMAL TRANSBORDER TRAFFIC. SHOULD WE TELL CANADIANS THIS AS ONE WAY OF SUGGESTING IT IS NOT IN THEIR INTEREST COOPERATE WITH U.K.?
- B. ARE THERE ANY OTHER WAYS WE CAN PERSUADE CANADIANS NOT TO COOPERATE WITH U.K. OR INDICATE TO BRITISH THAT THE USE OF CANADA FOR ALTERNATIVE ROUTING OF U.K.-U.S. PASSENGERS WILL BE UNWORKABLE?
- C. HOW CAN WE SIGNAL BRITISH IN LOW KEY, BUT CLEAR FASHION, THAT PRECLEARANCE OR OTHER ACTIONS WE OR CANADIANS TAKE WILL SERIOUSLY AFFECT VIABILITY OF CANADIAN ALTERNATIVE?

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Case Number: n/a
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